

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 L-02 DPW-01 IO-03 PRS-01

AID-10 EUR-10 RSR-01 /080 W
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R 171145 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3307

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 10837

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 17 JUNE 1973

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON DAO SGN USSAG DTD 17 JUN FROM BIEN HOA

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BIEN HOA 0207

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 17 JUNE 1973

1. ACCORDING TO MR 3 G-2, MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS AT LOW LEVEL
IN 24 HOURS ENDING 0800 JUNE 17. SIXTEEN INCIDENTS ARE
REPORTED, CONSISTING OF NINE ATTACKS BY FIRE (ONE OF 20 ROUNDS),
AND SEVEN MINES/ BOOBY TRAPS. THERE WAS ONE RVNAF AND ONE
CIVILIAN KILLED, AND TEN WOUNDED; VC/ NVA CASUALTIES WERE UNKNOWN.
NO REPEAT NO GROUND CONTACTS WERE REPORTED, BUT THERE WERE
SEVERAL INSTANCES OF SMALL ARMS HARASSMENT WHICH CAUSED NO
CASUALTIES. MR 3 ARVN AND TERRITORIAL FORCES REMAIN ON FULL
ALERT, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGN OF ANY COMMUNIST ATTEMPT TO
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GRAB LAND OR PEOPLE

MR 3 OB INFORMATION IS THAT VC/ NVA FORCES ARE DEPLOYED DEFENSIVELY TO PROTECT AREAS THEY CONTROL. ONLY SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT WAS 20 ROUNDS OF ASSORTED MORTAR AND ARTILLERY FIRE INTO POSITION OF 2 ND BATTALION OF 9 TH REGIMENT OF 5 TH ARVN DIVISION, 10 KM SW OF PHU GIAO (PROBABLY HOLDING OPEN INTERPROVINCIAL ROUTE 1- A) IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE.

2. MORNING JUNE 17, CIVILIAN MOTIVATION CADRE IN BIEN HOA CITY AND ELSEWHERE IN MR 3 WERE HANGING BANNERS OVER MAIN STREETS DEMANDING THAT COMMUNISTS RESPECT THE CEASE- FIRE, AND AGREE TO EARLY ELECTIONS.

3. TWO MEMBERS OF ICCS HUNGARIAN DELEGATION FROM SAIGON CALLED ON CONGEN MORNING JUNE 16. CONGEN TOOK OCCASION TO REMIND HUNGARIANS OF NEED FOR OBJECTIVITY IN PERFORMANCE OF THEIR ICCS ROLE, WHILE HUNGARIANS DEFENDED THEIR CONCEPT OF ICCS IN TERMS WHICH MUST BE ALL TOO FAMILIAR BY NOW TO EMBASSY SAIGON. HUNGARIANS PROFESSED " PERSONALLY" TO BE MODERATELY HOPEFUL ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR PEACE HERE AFTER THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE, AND ASKED CONGEN WHETHER HE THOUGHT GVN WOULD STRICTLY RESPECT CEASE- FIRE; AT WHAT LEVEL HE" PERSONALLY" THOUGHT OPPOSING FIELD COMMANDERS SHOULD MEET; AND WHETHER GVN WOULD REALLY ACCEPT DELINEATION OF ZONES OF CONTROL. IN LATER LUCH CONVERSATION WITH CONSULS, HUNGARIANS ADMITTED THAT PRG WAS NOT READY FOR A GENERAL ELECTION, AND GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT PRG PREFERS INDEFINITE PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATION OF THEIR OWN " ZONES OF CONTROL". IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE, THEY THOUGHT LAOS- TYPE POLITICAL STRUCTURE WAS MOST DESIRABLE SITUATION. WE WILL SEND FULLER REPORT BY SEPTTEL.

4. CONGEN HEARD SOUND OF ARTILLERY ABOUT 2000 JUNE 16 AND CALLED BIEN HOA ARRO TO CHECK WITH COUNTERPART. AFTER TEN- MINUTE DELAY, GVN OFFICIALS REPORTED THAT ARVN ARTILLERY UNITS WERE CONDUCTING TARGET PRACTICE IN DI AN DISTRICT, IN PREPARATION FOR ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE JUNE 19. WE WONDER WHAT OUR VIETNAMESE FRIENDS WILL COME UP WITH AFTER ARMED FORCES DAY TO JUSTIFY USE OF ARTILLERY.

WALKINSHAW
UNQUOTE WHITEHOUSE
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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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